

What is claimed is:

1. A method of speech recognition processing that provides audible information over a communications device comprising:

- 5 receiving a first speech input indicative of a first subject area;  
initiating a first subject application associated with said first subject area;  
receiving a second speech input indicative of a second subject area; and  
storing at least one indicator indicating a current processing step of said first subject application.

10 2. The method according to claim 1, further comprising initiating a second subject application associated with said second subject area.

3. The method according to claim 1, further comprising initiating a task agent for said first subject application.

15 4. The method according to claim 1, further comprising monitoring said first speech input for at least one word indicative of said second subject area.

5. The method according to claim 1, further comprising suspending said first subject application after receiving said second speech input.

6. The method according to claim 5, further comprising:

- receiving a further speech input, and  
re-activating said first subject application responsive to the further speech input.

7. The method according to claim 1, wherein said storing at least one indicator further comprises storing a series of indicators that indicate a processing path of said first application.

8. The method according to claim 7, further comprising outputting a computer-generated representation of said stored series of indicators that indicates said processing path of said first application.

9. The method according to claim 1, further comprising outputting information associated  
5 with said first application in a first voice.

10. The method according to claim 9, further comprising outputting information associated with said second application in a second voice, said second voice being distinguishable from said first voice.

11. The method according to claim 1, further comprising synthesizing speech for outputting  
10 speech from said first application.

12. A speech recognition system comprising:

a speech recognition module that processes speech input and translates said speech input into computer-readable input;

a control manager comprising:

15                   a module that interfaces between said speech input and at least one of a plurality of application programs;

a module that initiates processing of a first application program; and

a module that monitors said speech input for a request to initiate a second application program; and

20            a speech synthesizing module for providing output information from said plurality  
of application programs.

13. The system according to claim 12, further comprising a context table for maintaining a context for each of said plurality of application programs.

14. The system according to claim 12, further comprising a plurality of task agents, each task  
25 agent associated with one of said plurality of application programs.

15. The system according to claim 14, wherein the control manager is adapted to assign said application programs to said task agents, and switch control among said task agents.
16. The system according to claim 12, wherein the request comprises a control word.
17. The system according to claim 12, wherein the control manager is adapted to suspend  
5 said first application program, and initiate processing of said second application program, responsive to the request.
18. The system according to claim 17, wherein the control manager is adapted to re-activate said first application program responsive to a further request.
19. The system according to claim 12, wherein the control manager is adapted to store at least  
10 one indicator indicative of a current processing step of at least one of said plurality of application programs.
20. A computer-readable medium for storing computer-executable instructions for performing the method of claim 1.